

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I missed the following votes: H.R. 2835—Border Jobs for Veterans Act of 2015, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on this bill. H.R. 2786—Cross Border Rail Security Act of 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on this bill.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I attended the funeral of Deputy William B. “Bill” Myers, a law enforcement officer in my district who was killed in the line of duty, and I missed the following rollcall votes: Nos. 519 and 520, today, September 28, 2015. If present I would have voted: rollcall vote No. 519—H.R. 2835—Border Jobs for Veterans Act of 2015, as amended, “aye”; and rollcall vote No. 520—H.R. 2786—Cross-Border Rail Security Act of 2015, “aye.”

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for votes on Monday, September 28, 2015. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall votes 519 and 520.

## RICKY’S WHEELS

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a nonprofit organization in my district that is providing a valuable service to the region.

The organization, Ricky’s Wheels, is dedicated to providing electric wheelchairs to those in need.

Rick Worthy and his wife, Diane, created Ricky’s Wheels after the death of their son Ricky in 2009, following a brief battle with melanoma.

After donating Ricky’s wheelchair to a local couple, Rick and Diane noticed a need across their community, especially since Medicare will not pay for a chair once someone is accepted into hospice.

Since its founding 6 years ago, Ricky’s Wheels has grown from a few donated electric wheelchairs in the Worthys’ garage to a warehouse filled with mobility assistance devices, along with push chairs, walkers, and baby strollers.

Mr. Speaker, Ricky’s Wheels recently was named a local Jefferson Award recipient, after being nominated by the local television station, WJAC. This award, which was created by the American Institute for Public Service, honors ordinary people who do extraordinary things without expectation of recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that Rick and Diane are more than worthy of recognition for their efforts.

## JEB BUSH SHOULD CONSIDER THE POPE’S CALL TO PRESERVE OUR ENVIRONMENT

(Mr. FOSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, many of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have continually reminded us that they are not scientists. We have also heard this from several of the Republican candidates seeking our Nation’s highest office.

As a scientist myself, I appreciate their candor. But what I don’t as much appreciate is when they use this mantra of “I am not a scientist” to preface statements that are factually wrong. Facts are stubborn things, and they don’t only apply to those in the scientific community.

Last week Pope Francis challenged us to take courageous steps to combat climate change, a call to action that made many Republicans uncomfortable. When asked about the Pope’s statement, Governor Jeb Bush dismissed it, saying that Pope Francis is “not a scientist, he’s a religious leader.” In fact, Pope Francis is a former chemist, and, as such, he has more scientific training than many of our elected officials.

I was hoping that, when the Pope addressed Congress in his remarks, he would have explained to my Republican colleagues the effect of the infrared absorption spectrum of carbon dioxide on the radiation balance and equilibrium temperature of the Earth, but time did not permit.

I encourage Jeb and my colleagues in Congress to consider the Pope’s call to preserve our environment.

## HONORING OUR FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, our Nation’s firefighters sign up for the job knowing the dangers they will often face in order to keep their communities safe. Tragically, we have seen these first responders give their lives in service to others.

This past Sunday the 2015 Minnesota Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service took place on the State Capitol grounds to honor the 9 Minnesota firefighters—and 216 nationwide—that have passed away in the line of duty this year.

The event honors the sacrifice that these firefighters have made and also provides support for their families who are coping with a profound loss.

As policymakers, it is important that we recognize what our first responders go through on a daily basis and support them. Earlier this year Congress passed my legislation, which is now law, that ensures that survivor benefits for families of those killed in the line of duty are not taxed.

Mr. Speaker, we are blessed that so many men and women sign up to put themselves in harm’s way to keep others safe. For those that give their life, we must not forget their sacrifice.

## PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of September as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month and as a proud cosponsor of the National Prostate Cancer Plan Act, H.R. 2730.

As the most common cancer in men, prostate cancer is a national epidemic. This year alone one in seven men will be diagnosed and 28,000 men will die from prostate cancer.

Last week, while hosting a community conversation in my district in Whitehall, Ohio, I met with two constituents, Linda and Ray Hoetger, an inspiring husband and wife team who tirelessly dedicate themselves to raising awareness about prostate cancer.

Linda and Ray are members of the national organization ZERO, the End of Prostate Cancer, and are spearheading a campaign to raise awareness of prostate cancer throughout Ohio.

I stand here today to commend their work. As Ray and Linda remind us, many of us have either been personally affected by this disease or have lost a loved one.

So during this Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, let us reaffirm our commitment to increase the quality of care in order to eliminate the pain and suffering once and for all.

## HONORING SPEAKER BOEHNER

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise out of respect and admiration for our tremendous Speaker, the incredible leader of our Republican Conference and my friend, JOHN BOEHNER.

He has stayed true to his home State of Ohio for well over 20 years, serving his constituents with pride and integrity. His distinguished career was marked by an honest pursuit of what is best for the American people as well as the inclusion of more folks under the big tent of our GOP.

He has worked in a bipartisan manner to help create jobs and restore America’s leadership, all the while maintaining a hard line on the Castros’ despotic rule in Cuba, being supportive of our strong relations with Israel, as well as remaining a tough opponent of the weak and dangerous Iran nuclear deal.

JOHN’s decorum, grace, and patience are his hallmarks, and they will be greatly missed in our Nation’s Capitol. Only in America can the son of a barkeep rise to make a lasting positive contribution to our history as Speaker of the people’s House.

I wish JOHN, Debbie, the entire Boehner family, including his new granddaughter Alistair, all the best. Godspeed, Mr. Speaker.